

Message Text

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SUBJECT: FURTHER REACTION TO FOREIGN MINISTER'S WASHINGTON VISIT

REF: BRASILIA 8675

SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTRY FORMALLY DENIED REPORTS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER COMPLAINED IN WASHINGTON OF LACK OF CONSULTATIONS OR DISCUSSED LOCKHEED INVESTIGATIONS WITH US OFFICIALS. FOREIGN MINISTER REINTERATED THESE DENIALS IN INTERVIEW IN PARIS. OPPOSITION SENATOR HAS CRITICIZED SECRETARY'S TOAST TO SILVEIRA AND THE ALLEGED US FAILURE TO CONSULT BRAZIL. END SUMMARY.

1. ON OCTOBER 7 FOREIGN MINISTRY MADE STATEMENTS FORMALLY DENYING: (A) UPI REPORTS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER HAD COMPLAINED TO KISSINGER REGARDING LACK OF PRIOR CONSULTATIONS ON SECRETARY'S AFRICA VISIT; AND (B) THAT FOREIGN MINISTER HAD DISCUSSED LOCKHEED CASE IN ANY OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH US OFFICIALS.

2. REGARDING ALLEGED LACK OF CONSULTATIONS ON AFRICA, FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT--ISSUED AFTER TELEPHONIC CONSULTATION WITH SILVEIRA IN PARIS--ASSURED THAT EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS UNCLASSIFIED

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BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ON AFRICA AND OTHER TOPICS

HAS BEEN CARRIED ON WITH "ABSOLUTE REGULARITY AND WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION OF THE MOU." ITAMARATY SPOKESMAN ALSO RECALLED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER HAD REVEALED SHORTLY BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR UNGA THAT HE HAD RECEIVED LETTER FROM SECRETARY REGARDING HIS VISITS TO SOUTHERN AFRICA (BRASILIA 8318). IN DENYING DISCUSSIONS OF LOCKHEED CASE, FOREIGN MINISTRY STATED THAT SILVEIRA'S TALKS WITH US OFFICIALS DEALT ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS WITH THE SHORT DRAFT UN RESOLUTION ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS. HE ADDED THAT BRAZILIAN POSITION IN THIS RESPECT IS THAT BOTH THE GIVER AND RECEIVER OF BRIBES SHOULD BE HELD RESPONSIBLE (SEE BRASILIA 8679).

3. IN INTERVIEW WITH ESTADO DE SAO PAULO'S PARIS CORRESPONDENT REALI JUNIOR, WHICH APPEARED IN ESTADO OCTOBER 8, SILVEIRA REITERATED ITAMARATY'S DENIALS THAT HE HAD COMPLAINED DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT OF THE LACK OF CONSULTATION OR THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD REFERRED TO THE LOCKHEED SCANDAL. SILVEIRA CONSIDERED "STRANGE AND RIDICULOUS" THE REPORTS OF A BRAZILIAN PROTEST, POINTING OUT THAT THE MOU PROVIDES FOR CONSULTATIONS EVERY SIX MONTHS BUT IN FACT MEETINGS BETWEEN US AND BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN HELD VERY FOUR MONTHS. HE STRESSED THAT US-BRAZILIAN RELATIONS MUST BE CONDUCTED WITH EQUALITY AND FREE OF HOSTILITY AND CONDESCENSION--"A CORDIAL DIALOGUE BUT WITH EACH COUNTRY DEFENDING ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS." SILVEIRA DEPLORED FACT THAT IN LATIN AMERICA RELATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES TEND TO BE UNDERSTOOD ONLY FROM THE ANGLES OF HOSTILITY OR BENEVOLENCE. HE REJECTED CONFRONTATION AND FAVORED TREATING PROBLEMS WITH MATURITY.

4. SILVEIRA ALSO SAID THAT IN HIS MEETINGS WITH THE SECRETARY, THEY HAD DISCUSSED THE PRESENT SITUATION OF THE NORTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE IN PARIS AND OTHER SUCH CONFERENCES UNDER UN AUSPICES. HE REVEALED THAT IN WASHINGTON THE SECRETARY HAD RELATED TO HIM THE DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE AFRICANS, UNDERSCORING THE OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF THE FORMATION OF A BLACK MAJORITY GOVERNMENT.

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5. TURNING TO OTHER MATTERS INVOLVING RELATIONS WITH THE US, SILVEIRA STATED THAT SEVERAL INDIRECT CONTACTS WERE BEING DEVELOPED WITH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE CARTER, SINCE BRAZIL MUST PREPARE ITSELF FOR THE EVENTUALITY OF A CARTER VICTORY. HE REMARKED THAT HE FOUND THE CRITICISMS BY CARTER STRANGE SINCE CRITICISMS, IF THEY MUST BE MADE, SHOULD BE DIRECTED AT A COUNTRY'S POLICIES AND NOT AGAINST DIALOGUE BETWEEN COUNTRIES.

6. IN SPEECH IN SENATE OCTOBER 7, SENATOR DANTON JOBIM, RANKING OPPOSITION MEMBER OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, CHARGED THAT THE ALLEGED US FAILURE TO CONSULT BRAZIL ON ITS AFRICA POLICY, IN SPITE OF EXISTENCE OF MOU, CAST DOUBT ON THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH SECRETARY KISSINGER LOOKS ON BRAZIL AND ON THE REAL SIGNIFICANCE OF ITS SUPPOSED STATUS AS "EMERGING POWER WITH WHICH US MAINTAINS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP." WHILE NOTING THAT SECRETARY HAD SPOKEN IN JEST, JOBIM REJECTED HIS CHARACTERIZATION OF BRAZIL AS IN PART SUPERDEVELOPED AND IN PART LIGHTLY UNDERDEVELOPED. HE CONSIDERED THE IDEA OF A FOREIGN POLICY BASED ON MANEUVER BETWEEN THESE TWO POLES TO BE PUERILE, ADDING THAT BRAZIL'S POLICY IS PRAGMATIC AND AIMED AT PRECISE OBJECTIVES RELATED TO ITS PERMANENT INTEREST.

7. TAKING NOTE OF SECRETARY'S PRAISE OF SILVEIRA'S ROLE IN GAINING HIS ATTENTION FOR THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, JOBIM NOTED THAT "FACT" WAS THAT BRAZIL WAS NOT INFORMED ABOUT IMPORTANT PLANS OF THE SECRETARY AFFECTING SOUTHERN AFRICA--AN AREA OF VITAL IMPORTANCE FOR BRAZIL. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT US OF COURSE HAS NO OBLIGATION TO CONFIDE ITS SECRET POLITICAL PLANS, BUT HE WONDERED WHAT US DOES FEEL ITSELF OBLIGATED TO INFORM BRAZIL ABOUT UNDER MOU IF NOT ITS PLANS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA. SENATOR RECALLED THAT AT OUTSET HE HAD JUDGED MOU TO BE A MERE LETTER OF INTENT, SINCE NO POWERFUL NATION SUBORDINATES ITS FOREIGN POLICY DECISIONS TO THE REVIEW OR CONCURRENCE OF OTHERS. AND HE VOICED CONFIDENCE THAT A MAN OF SILVEIRA'S PROVEN ACUITY WOULD NOT ALLOW HIMSELF TO BE DECEIVED BY SUCH APPEALS TO BRAZILIAN VANITY AS THE LABEL OF "EMERGING POWER."

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8. TAKING NOTE OF BRAZIL'S EXPANDING INTEREST IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BASED ON CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC TIES AND THE DELICACY OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED THERE, JOBIM SAID THAT IF ON ONE HAND THE AREA OFFERS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION WITH US--AS SUGGESTED BY SECRETARY'S REFERENCE TO BRAZIL AS "AN INTELLECTUAL BRIDGE"--IT CAN ALSO ON THE OTHER HAND CREATE AREAS OF CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH IS IN OUR INTERESTS TO AVOID.

9. SENATOR JOBIM CONCLUDED BY CHARGING THAT SECRETARY'S TOAST TO SILVEIRA WAS SATURATED WITH INTIMACY AND A PATERNALISTIC TONE THAT IS NOT WELL RECEIVED IN BRAZIL WHEN SERIOUS MATTERS ARE DISCUSSED. THERE ARE IRONIC OR SARCASTIC EXCUSES AND EXPLANATIONS, HE CONCLUDED, THAT MAY

BE ACCEPTABLE STYLE IN SUCH TOASTS IN THE US BUT THEY DO
NOT EXPLAIN OR CLARIFY ANYTHING.
JOHNSON

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